proposals pertaining to maintenance of accounts by political parties and audit thereof, ban on donation by companies to political parties, inclusion of expenses of political parties in the election expenses of candidates for the purposes of ceiling on election expenses and empowering of Election Commission to fix ceiling on election expenses; broad agreement on the proposal of lowering age of contesting candidates and to take fresh delimitation when it becomes mandatory as per existing constitutional provision were amongst the major decisions taken at the meeting of political parties held recently to consider proposals on electoral reforms. The committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Indrajit Gupta is likely to submit its report by the end of August, 1998.

Amendments in VII Schedule of the Constitution

3040. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of the items transferred from state list to concurrent list and concurrent list of Union list through various constitutional amendments of seventh schedule after adoption of Indian Constitution, amendment-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): Sir Details of items which have been transferred from state List to Concurrent List and Concurrent List to Union List through various constitutional amendments are given in the statement annexed herewith. *See* below).

Statement

S. No.	Constitution Amendment Acts which affected Seventh Schedule	Subject and Entry of State List	Subject and Entry of Concurrent List
1.	The Constitution (Seventh Amendment) Act, 1956.	Entry 36: Acquisition or requisitioning of propoerty, except for the pruposes of the Union, subject to the provisions of entry 42 of List III.	Entry 42: Acquisition and requisitioning of property
2.	The Constitution (Forty-secton Amendment) Act, 1976	Entry 03. *(Partly)* Administration of justice; constitution and organisation of all courts, except the supreme Court and the High Court: officers and servants of the High Court; procedure in rent and revenue courts; fees taken in all courts except the Supreme Court.	Entry 11A: Administration of justice; constitution and organisation of all courts, except the Supreme Court and the High Courts.
3.	-do-	Entry 11: Education, including universities subject to the provisions of entries 63, 64 65 and 66 of List I and entry 25 of List III.	Entry 25: Education, including technical education, medical education and universities, subject to the provisions of entries 63,64,65 and 66 of List I; vocational and technical training of labour.
4.	-do-	Entry 19: Forests.	Entry 17A: Forests

S. No.	Constitution Amendment Acts which affected Seventh Schedu	Subject and Entry of State List	Subject and Entry of Concurrent List
5.	-do-	Entry 20: Protection of wild animals and birds	Entry 17B; Protection of wild animals and birds
6.	-do-	Entry 29: Weights and measures except establishment of standards	Entry 33A; Weights and measures except establishment of standards

None of the Constitution Amendment Acts effected transfer of any item from the Concurrent list to Union list in the Seventh Schedule.

Assault on journalists in the premises of Additional District Judge of Kollam

3041. SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the assault on press correspondents and press photographers on 16th June, 1998 in the premises of the Additional District Judge of Kollam in Kerala where they had gone for performing their professional duty; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to protect the journalists in courts of law?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the Government of Kerala and the Registry of the Kerala High Court and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Changes in the Representation of Peoples' Act

3042. SHRI GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing demand to amend the Income Tax Act, making the Indian Penal Code effective in curbing malpractices such as money and muscle power at the polls and giving teeth to the Election Commission through appropriate changes in the Representation of Peoples' Act;

(b) whether Government propose to call a meeting of leaders of Political Parties and Chief Ministers to discuss the Electoral Reforms; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) to (c) In Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1998, the Government has proposed to disallow payments made in violation of any law to curb the muscle power. There is, however, no proposal, at present, to amend any provision of Chapter IXA of the Indian Penal Code pertaining to "Offences relating to elections". A meeting of political parties was held on 22.5.1998 to discuss proposals on electoral reforms which, inter alia, also contained certain proposals for strengthening the Election Commission of India and pursuant to a decision taken in that meeting, a 7-Member Committee under the chairmanship of Shri Indrajit Gupta, Member of Parliament has been constituted to suggest concrete proposals for providing State funding of elections as also to consider related proposals. The Committee is likely to submit its report by the end of August, 1998. There is, however, at present, no proposal for calling a meeting of Chief Ministers to discuss proposals on electoral reforms.